

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of:)
) CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45
Nomination for Universal Service)
Administrative Company Board of Directors)

**National Consumer Law Center's Nomination of Ellis Jacobs to Serve on the
USAC Board of Directors as the Representative for Low-Income Consumers**

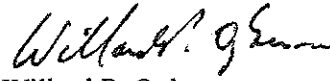
Pursuant to the FCC Public Notice, "The Wireline Competition Bureau Seeks Nominations for Two Board Member Positions on the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors" released July 21, 2009, the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC), is pleased to nominate Ellis Jacobs to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors to represent low-income consumers.

NCLC is a non-profit Massachusetts corporation founded in 1969 specializing in low-income utility consumer issues in state utility commission proceedings and at the FCC. NCLC also publishes over a dozen legal manuals, including *Access to Utility Services*. NCLC has a long history of advocating for our low-income clients in utility matters. In that capacity, we have worked with Mr. Jacobs for many years. He is a senior attorney at Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. in Dayton, Ohio, a non-profit public interest law firm that represents low-income groups and individuals.

Since 1995, he has worked on behalf of low-income telecommunication customers. He has been active in Universal Service proceedings in Ohio and before the FCC. He has worked to implement the Lifeline and Link-Up programs. He is one of the leading low income telecommunications advocates in the country. His involvement flows from his daily representation of low-income groups and individuals in Ohio. A copy of Mr. Jacobs's resume is attached to this nomination.

Mr. Jacobs is ideally suited to be the low-income consumer representative on the USCA Board. For that reason, the NCLC enthusiastically nominates him for that position.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Willard P. Ogburn".

Willard P. Ogburn
Executive Director
National Consumer Law Center
7 Winthrop Square, 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02110-1245
(617) 542-8010

July 23, 2009

cc:

Best Copy and Printing, Inc.

Jamie Susskind, Telecommunications Access Policy Division

Antoinette Stevens, Telecommunications Access Policy Division

ATTACHMENT

**ELLIS JACOBS'S
PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY**

ELLIS JACOBS
131 E. Davis Street
Yellow Springs, OH 45387
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Fax: (937) 449-8131
Ejacobs@ablelaw.org

BAR ADMISSIONS

Admitted to Ohio and Federal Bars, November 1981

EDUCATION:

University of Dayton School of Law - Dayton, Ohio
J.D. Degree, June 1981
Capital University, UWW - Columbus, Ohio
B.A. 1978

EMPLOYMENT:

ADVOCATES FOR BASIC LEGAL EQUALITY, INC.
Dayton, Ohio
Senior Attorney
(December, 2003 – Present)
Utility Regulation, Environmental Law, Voting Rights.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF DAYTON, INC.
Dayton, Ohio
Litigation Director/Chief Counsel/ Managing Attorney
(May 1987 – December, 2003)
Utility Regulation and Environmental Law.

CITY OF DAYTON
Dayton, Ohio
Magistrate
(September 1985 - May 1987)
Presided over the city's landlord/tenant court, heard a variety of
other cases referred by municipal judges.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDERS OFFICE
Dayton, Ohio
Senior Appellate Attorney
(November 1983 - September 1985)
Trial Attorney
(November 1981 - November 1983)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR HOUSING CENTER
Dayton, Ohio
(May 1981 - November 1981)
Civil rights litigation, landlord/tenant law.

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON SCHOOL OF LAW
Visiting Professor, Law Clinic
Spring 2001, Fall 2003

ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY
Visiting Professor, Business Law
Spring 2001, Fall 2002

SINCLAIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Instructor, Business Law
1987

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Grant Reviewer, Technology Opportunities Program,
2002

**RELEVANT
EXPERIENCE:**

ATLANTIC FELLOWSHIP IN PUBLIC POLICY
Fellow, Office of Telecommunications (OFTEL),
London, England
(August 2001 – January 2002)
As part of a British Government sponsored fellowship program,
worked and studied at OFTEL, the British equivalent of the FCC.
While working on several projects for OFTEL, researched and
wrote, “British Universal Service Policy in the Era of Mobile
Madness”, presented at the Atlantic Fellowship Conference,
London England, May 2002.

TELEPHONE AND TECHNOLOGY ACCESS PROJECT
Director (1995 – 2003)
Provided public interest advocacy for the low-income community
on telecommunication issues. This included representation in
alternative regulation, merger, service quality and prepaid
provider cases and involvement in universal service, local
competition and minimum service standard rules dockets.

OHIO COMMUNITY COMPUTING CENTER NETWORK

Board Member (1995 – 2004)

Chair (1995 – 1998)

The OCCN provides support to a network of computer centers in low income communities throughout Ohio, including centers funded as the result of settlements in the Ameritech and Cincinnati Bell Telephone alternative regulation and merger cases.

UNIVERSAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Board Member (1995 – 2006)

Chair (1996 – 1998)

This committee oversaw the implementation of the low-income lifeline program in the Ameritech-Ohio service territory. In 2004 this group merged into "Lifeline Ohio".

COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY FUND OF OHIO

Board Chair (1999 – 2006)

This fund provided grants to help organizations in low-income communities effectively use telecommunications and computer technology. This fund resulted from the settlement of a merger case and was overseen by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. It expired in 2006 when it completed oversight of all grants.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Ellis Jacobs, "Legal Aid's Role in the Fight for Telecommunications and Computer Access in Low-income Communities," Clearinghouse Review, Vol. 37, Number 3, August 2003.

Gabrielle Hammond and Ellis Jacobs, "The Future of Technology in Legal Services: A Time for New Advocacy," Clearinghouse Review, Vol. 37, Number 1-2, May-June 2003.

Ellis Jacobs, "Fighting to Turn the Promise of Universal Telecommunications Technology Service into Reality: The Experience of one Community Organization in Ohio," Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law and Policy, Vol. VIII, Number 1, Winter 2001.

Ellis Jacobs, Cary Williams, "Telecommunications Policy in Ohio: Interventions to Bridge the Digital Divide," Quarterly Bulletin, National Regulatory Research Institute, Vol. 20, Number 3, Fall/Winter 1999.

Ellis Jacobs, "Expanding Low-Income Communities' Access to Telecommunications Technology," Clearinghouse Review, Vol. 29, Number 3, July 1995.

**SELECTED
PRESENTATIONS:**

"First Do No Harm; Representing Community Organizations," National Legal Aid and Defender Association, San Jose, California, July, 2006.

"Systemic Advocacy in the Digital Age," National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 2002.

"British Universal Service Policy in the Era of Mobile Madness", Atlantic Fellowship in Public Policy Conference, London, England, May, 2002.

"Overcoming the Digital Divide," National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Washington DC, November 2000.

"The Digital Divide and Low Income Communities Access to Technology," Ohio State Legal Services, Columbus Ohio, October 2000.

"Universal Service Advocacy," National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Houston, Texas, April 2000.

"Advancing the Public Interest before State Utility Commissions," Community Technology Centers' Network, Boston, Massachusetts, June, 1996.

"Lessons from the World of Telecommunications," National Consumer Law Center, Washington, D.C., February, 1996.

"National and Local Telecommunications Agendas: Advancing the Public Interest in a Changing Environment," Center for Neighborhood Technology, Chicago, Illinois, November, 1995.